



Marine Wing Support Squadron 274
COMMANDING OFFICER'S
Statement on Sexual Assault



"Sexual assault is a crime that is completely incompatible with our core values of honor, courage, and commitment. It is an affront to the basic American principles we so bravely defend. Sexual assault goes against everything we claim to be as Marines."

- MCO 1752.5B

Sexual assault is defined in MCO 1752.5B as intentional contact, characterized by use of force, threats, intimidation, or abuse of authority or when the victim does not or cannot consent. Sexual assault includes rape, forcible sodomy, and other unwanted sexual contact that is aggravated, abusive, or wrongful (including unwanted and inappropriate sexual contact), or attempts to commit these acts. Sexual assault will not be tolerated.

Prevention and education of this crime will be a constant focus within our Squadron, and we will work aggressively to maintain a work environment that promotes mutual respect. Victims of sexual assault will be treated with decency and respect, as well as have access to Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) services to include medical, counseling, and legal support. A victim of sexual assault must feel confident that their reporting option will be honored, and that they will not be re-victimized by the organization upon reporting.

If you are a victim of sexual assault confidential assistance and support are available through the Squadron Uniformed Victim Advocates (UVA), Wing Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC), and Chaplain. To confidentially reach a MCAS Cherry Point Victim Advocate, call the 24/7 Helpline at (252) 665-4713. Additionally, the DoD Safe Helpline is anonymous, secure, and available 24/7 worldwide via phone (1-877-995-5247) or online at www.safehelpline.org.

Sexual assault undermines the special trust and confidence that exists between Marines and Sailors, and creates a toxic environment that will have lasting negative effects upon morale and mission accomplishment. Leadership is the key to sexual assault awareness, prevention, and response. I charge all Marines and Sailors to remain alert for indicators of a potential sexual assault and to utilize the foundations of bystander intervention to take action before irreparable damage occurs to one of our own, our Squadron, and Corps. **We represent the Marine Corps in everything we do. Everything.**


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